

The Son of Democracy





Benjamin Chapin

Paramount Pictures Corporation
Presents Benjamin Chapin in

“The Son of Democracy”

A Series of Dramatic Film Stories of
America in the Making. Written, Directed
and Produced by Benjamin Chapin

A Paramount Series

“The Son of Democracy”

FOR five years Benjamin Chapin has been concentrating his talent as a scholar, a writer, a producer and an actor upon the production of “The Son of Democracy,” a dramatic, humorous, human motion picture of early American life. It is now ready. Paramount Pictures Corporation is to present this photoplay in ten weekly chapters, each complete in itself, each a thirty-minute drama.

You have seen “The Birth of a Nation.” You know what a colorful life was led by Abraham Lincoln, boy and man. Mr. Chapin has built his production around the dramatic development of this, the greatest son of Democracy.

Every person who has seen Mr. Chapin’s motion pictures has seen in them the promise of a greater and more useful form of cinema entertainment.

Alice Nielsen, the grand opera star, wrote, “Today I am voiceless, having wept one hour last evening over your vivid portrayal of that extraordinary man, Abraham Lincoln.”

From F. K. Mathiews, Director, Library Department, The Boy Scouts of America, “Lincoln’s boyhood experiences are as thrilling and humorous as those of Tom Sawyer or Huck Finn.”

“It is superb,” writes William McAndrew of the Board of Superintendents, Department of Education, of the City of New York.

“Should be seen by every man, woman and child,” writes Mrs. William Grant Brown, President N. Y. State Federation of Women’s Clubs.



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Lincoln's Dedicatory Address at Gettysburg

Delivered at the National Cemetery on November 19th, 1863

“FOURSCORE and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent a new nation, conceived in Liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal. Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure. We are met on a great battle-field of that war. We have come to dedicate a portion of that field as the final resting-place for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this.

“But in a larger sense we cannot dedicate—we cannot consecrate—we cannot hallow—this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note, nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here. It is for us, the living, rather to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who have fought here have thus far so nobly advanced.

“It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us—that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to the cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion—that we here highly resolve that the dead shall not have died in vain—that this nation under God, shall have a new birth of freedom—and that the government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth.”

You Didn't Know That—

When Lincoln as a boy was asked "What will you be when you grow up?" his reply invariably was "I'll be President."

Lincoln was for equal suffrage. In 1836 he wrote: "I go for admitting all whites to the right of suffrage who pay taxes or bear arms (by no means excluding females)."

Cost of living in 1843. The year after Lincoln married Mary Todd the couple lived at the Globe Tavern, in Springfield, Ill. "It is very well kept," Lincoln wrote to a friend. Board and room for the two cost only four dollars a week.

But money was hard to get. When he was a rail-splitter, it is recorded that when he wanted a pair of brown jeans he had to split four hundred rails for every yard of cloth necessary in making the trousers.

Lincoln's father could neither read nor write.

Lincoln wanted a "temperance revolution," freeing the nation from drink. "By it," he said, "no orphans starving, no widows weeping."

Lincoln's famous letter to a Boston mother is said by scholars to be a model of pure and exquisite diction that never has been excelled. It follows:

To Mrs. Bixby, Boston, Mass. Dear Madam:

I have been shown in the files of the War Department a statement of the Adjutant General of Massachusetts that you are the mother of five sons who have died gloriously on the field of battle. I feel how weak and fruitless must be any word of mine which should attempt to beguile you from the grief of a loss so overwhelming. But I cannot refrain from tendering you the consolation that may be found in the thanks of the republic they died to save. I pray that our Heavenly Father may assuage the anguish of your bereavement, and leave you only the cherished memory of the loved and lost, and the solemn pride that must be yours to have laid so costly a sacrifice upon the altar of freedom.

Yours very sincerely and respectfully,

A. LINCOLN.

Benjamin Chapin

Benjamin Chapin, author, producer, actor, is one of the best known authorities on Abraham Lincoln. He has given his life to the interpretation, for the American people, of the true Lincoln. For years he has been a lecturer on Lincoln, he has written, produced and appeared in Lincoln plays and sketches and now he has concentrated his work of a lifetime in "The Son of Democracy," a motion picture drama, presented by Paramount Pictures Corporation.

Mr. Chapin is the only living man who could complete such a monumental work as "The Son of Democracy." He is a living likeness of the martyred President; he possesses a keen sense of humor and is a thorough artist as an actor and dramatist.

"The Son of Democracy" reflects in every detail Mr. Chapin's character. He has made "a bully show." He has surrounded himself with capable actors. His direction of children in the chapters in the early life of "Abe," the humor, the keen appreciation of the fact that Abe Lincoln was "a regular boy," all stamp him as a master producer.

Mr. Chapin loves Lincoln, knows him as do few living men. Always "The Son of Democracy" shows the guidance of Mr. Chapin's sympathetic mind. Always it is historically correct, always it is a tremendous inspiration to the American boy, to the American man of today.

Josephus Daniels, Secretary of the Navy, one of the greatest men the South has produced, after seeing these pictures writes Mr. Chapin: "It was a real pleasure to see your interpretation of Abraham Lincoln. . . . His career will forever be a thrilling inspiration to all Americans."

Your Friend, "Abe" Lincoln

"Abe" Lincoln would have been your friend, mighty glad to come to your house for Sunday dinner, and all afternoon he would have entertained the folks—had them laughing and crying in turns—with stories of his dramatic life.

You can't invite Lincoln to dinner now. But you can do better, you can *see* enacted on the screen in the new Paramount photoplay "The Son of Democracy," these stories that he told. You can *see* the boy Abe in his log home, his strange, sometimes humorous, often pathetic adventures. You can *see* him as President, interpreted by the living image of Abraham Lincoln, Benjamin Chapin.

They're all first-rate stories, motion pictures that you'd enjoy hugely had you never heard of Lincoln. They're not dry history, they're not dreary lectures, they *are* big, human dramas. Lincoln's life was crowded with action, he was continually in the midst of conflict.

In "The Son of Democracy" each feature is a complete drama. There are stirring fights, amusing complications and the funniest little pickaninny you ever saw steals a white hen; and Abe, the boy, is the attorney for his defense before a most peculiar jury. Later, Abe gets into a rough and tumble battle, much to his mother's distress, and he promises her never to fight again. As President, when the clamor of war is about him, he remembers that promise. What did he do? What would *you* have done?

"The Son of Democracy" will show you.

You want to see this splendid entertainment, don't you?

Tear out this page *now*. Tuck it in your pocket. The next time you go to a theatre, hand it in at the box office and ask, "When will you show this Paramount picture?"

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